

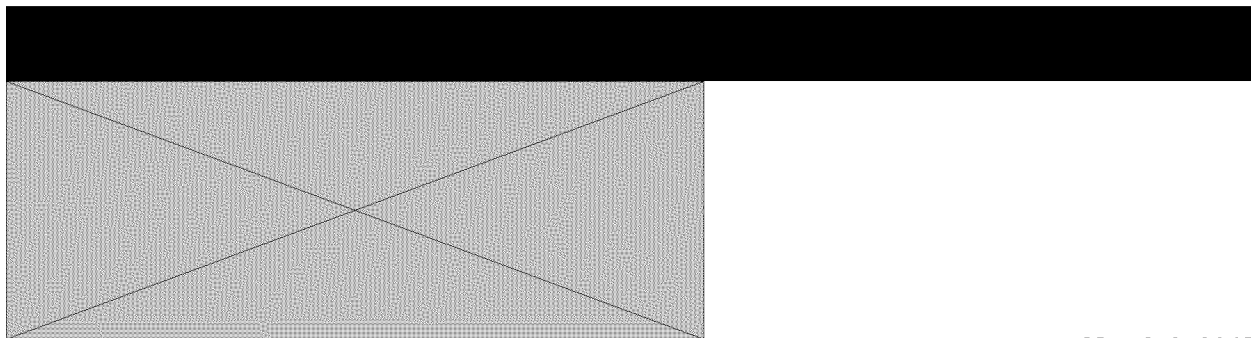
**To:** Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]  
**From:** Carey, Curtis  
**Sent:** Sun 3/8/2015 9:41:24 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: ACTION ALERT: Protect Your Rights & Our Environment

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Ed Smith <[moenviron@moenviron.org](mailto:moenviron@moenviron.org)>  
**Date:** March 7, 2015 at 10:10:11 AM CST  
**To:** [carey.curtis@epa.gov](mailto:carey.curtis@epa.gov)  
**Subject:** ACTION ALERT: Protect Your Rights & Our Environment  
**Reply-To:** [moenviron@moenviron.org](mailto:moenviron@moenviron.org)

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## ***Missouri Legislature Action Alert***

***March 6, 2015***

Dear Curtis ,

The Missouri House of Representatives scheduled a hearing on Monday, March 9, for House Bill 955 in the Conservation and Natural Resources Committee following adjournment of the afternoon session. House Bill 955 negatively impacts Missourians and our environment in several ways. MCE is traveling to Jefferson City on Monday to oppose this bill and your support is needed

Our take on Rep. Robert Ross' House Bill 955:

1. A significant amount of Missouri's waters (creeks, streams, and rivers) will become private property. Meaning, the bill would expand property owners boundaries along nonnavigable waters to include the actual waterway itself. Turning Missouri's waters into private property is not in the best interest of Missourians. Areas where the waters are not private, property owners will own up to the low water mark, possibly making it illegal to get out of a boat, canoe, or kayak.

**Missouri Coalition for the Environment** to seek legal action against the owner of a nuisance if the owner "demonstrates substantial compliance" with orders or permits from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), or Attorney General. The definition of "demonstrates substantial compliance" is not included in the proposed bill. *MCE's concern, for example, is that people around the West Lake Landfill would not be able to file a lawsuit against Republic Services for nuisance odors being created by the ongoing smoldering fire. Republic Services may not have had to pay \$6.8 million to its neighbors in Bridgeton if this bill were already a law.*

3. A state agency like the DNR will not be able to require a mitigation or offset credit as a condition for the issuance, extension, or termination of a permit.

### Help Stop HB 955 Today

Call or email the Representatives on the Conservation and Natural Resources Committee (except for Rep. Ross) and tell them this bill protects polluters, inappropriately turns public space into private property, and should be defeated.

Stay up-to-date about what MCE is tracking in the state legislature [HERE](#).

STAY CONNECTED



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